

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

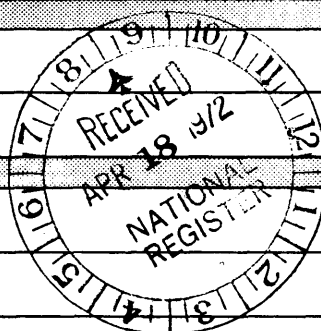
STATE: New Jersey	
COUNTY: Essex	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
Queen of Angels Church (RC)
AND/OR HISTORIC:
St. Peter's Church (RC) (German)

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Belmont Avenue opposite Morton Street
CITY OR TOWN:
Newark
STATE:
New Jersey
CODE:
34
COUNTY:
Essex
CODE:
013



3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
☐ District ☐ Site ☒ Building ☐ Structure ☐ Object	☐ Public ☒ Private ☐ Both	☒ Occupied ☐ Unoccupied ☐ Preservation work in progress	Yes: ☒ Restricted ☐ Unrestricted ☐ No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Agricultural	☐ Government	☐ Park	☐ Transportation	☐ Comments
☐ Commercial	☐ Industrial	☐ Private Residence	☐ Other (Specify)	
☐ Educational	☐ Military	☒ Religious		
☐ Entertainment	☐ Museum	☐ Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Queen of Angels Church (RC)
STREET AND NUMBER:
Belmont Avenue opposite Morton Street
CITY OR TOWN:
Newark
STATE:
New Jersey
CODE:
34

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Essex County Hall of Records
STREET AND NUMBER:
High Street
CITY OR TOWN:
Newark
STATE:
New Jersey
CODE:
34

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
New Jersey Historic Sites Inventory
DATE OF SURVEY:
☐ Federal ☒ State ☐ County ☐ Local
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Office of Historic Sites
STREET AND NUMBER:
Box 11120
CITY OR TOWN:
Trenton
STATE:
New Jersey
CODE:
34

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: New Jersey	COUNTY: Essex	ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

HEZ
NO
17th

7. Description

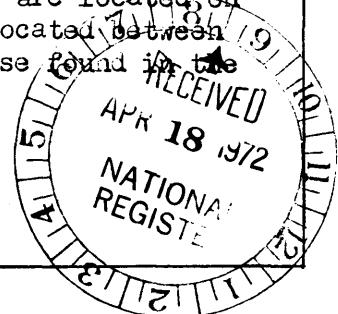
CONDITION	(Check One)					
	☒ Excellent	☐ Good	☐ Fair	☐ Deteriorated	☐ Ruins	☐ Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	☒ Altered	☐ Unaltered	☐ Moved	☒ Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Removal of the upper tower (ornamental spire): perma-bricking of the exterior without structural or ornamental change, for a church previously of white or light painted over brick, and recent interior liturgical changes have not critically altered the character of the church as a most ornate Gothic piece.

At dedication time, the Newark Daily Advertiser, October 26, 1861, said in excerpt: "The building is 140 feet long by 56 wide, with central and side aisles, arched ceiling, etc. It is built of brick, in Gothic style, with turrets, battlements, and weatherings of Newark free-stone." The tower, spire & bells, and alter work were completed after the dedication. Kenneth B. Schnall, in his 1965 Thesis gives detailed additional description from which is excerpted the following: "Entrance to the central nave aisle is through a heavily carved vestibule under the central tower. The ceiling in the nave is braced by nine collar beam braces that grip against the ceiling and rest on nine clustered piers. Nave piers appear to carry the weight of not only the ceiling, but also add strength to the high side walls. Ceiling braces similar to those in the central nave support the ceiling in the side aisles. These braces rest on small corbels on the side aisle walls. Eight long narrow windows break the side aisle walls. These windows rest between side wall buttressing. The side aisles contain pews and run the same length as the nave. Two side altars are at each aisle end. The apse is round and is the width of the nave with two long narrow lancet windows that are behind the heavy wooden Gothic altar which occupies most of the space in the apse. The interior of the church is heavily decorated with decals and gold gilt reflecting the national backgrounds of its parishioners over the years. The pews and floors are of wood and match the warmth of the heavy carved wainscoting. A small room which is an extension of the north aisle is used for the baptistery, while a similar area forward of the south aisle is the stairwell to the organ loft. A Gothic pulpit with a carved canopy and a place for religious sculpture is located on the third pier from the altar south aisles. The organ and choir loft runs the width of the rear of the nave. It is supported in the rear by the last piers in the north and south aisles. Most of the room in the organ loft is taken up by the organ which almost obscures a long lancet window in the facade. Two long side windows can be seen on each of the loft's sides. The organ is very large and rests under the central tower. The building's central tower with flanking sides and diagonal buttressing is thrust in front of the facade. This buttressing forms two long lines that frame the entire facade. The diagonal buttress is mounted with long pinnacles that, at one time, had carved finials. The central tower has two deeply set long lancet windows that are set apart by a round window within a square frame. Buttressing on the tower front acts as an accent to the long lancet windows that flank the tower. Long louvered windows similar in shape to those in the tower are located on each side of the bell gable. A row of buttressing is located between each window on the side walls. They are similar to those found in the facade."

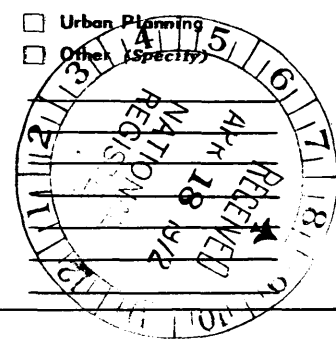
SEE INSTRUCTIONS



8. Significance

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate) ☐ Pre-Columbian ☐ 16th Century ☐ 18th Century ☐ 20th Century ☐ 15th Century ☐ 17th Century ☒ 19th Century			
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) Original ch-1854-55: dedicated 10/27/1861			
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
☐ Aboriginal ☐ Prehistoric ☐ Historic ☐ Agriculture ☒ Architecture ☐ Art ☐ Commerce ☐ Communications ☐ Conservation	☐ Education ☐ Engineering ☐ Industry ☐ Invention ☐ Landscape ☐ Architecture ☐ Literature ☐ Military ☐ Music	☐ Political ☒ Religion/Philosophy ☐ Science ☐ Sculpture ☐ Social/Humanitarian ☐ Theater ☐ Transportation	☐ Urban Planning ☐ Other (Specify)
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE This church has three major areas of significance, within which sub-areas would seem to group: (1) Architectural, (2) The German church, that is St. Peter's for its history, charities, etc. and (3) The current church, Queen of Angels, the most strategic Catholic outreach ministry to the black people of the parish itself and more, the entire central ward of Newark. The first church, a German (RC) parish, to be known as St. Peter's, was originated on Belmont Avenue in 1854 & 1855 under the Reverend Martin Hasslinger. Father Godfried Prieth, born in Graun, Tyrol and educated at Brixen and at Schwartz, in 1855 began 26 years as priest at St. Peter's. According to two newspaper accounts of much detail, the present church was dedicated October 27, 1861. Father Prieth was succeeded by Father Sebastian Messmer who became Archbishop of Milwaukee. In 1887, an adjoining school was erected, and in 1897, a large St. Peter's Orphanage, with chapel was built on Lyons Avenue, about two miles farther out, and it was to this location that the depleted, lingering St. Peter's parish eventually telescoped. The Belmont Avenue facilities were left to the essentially black parish of Queen of Angels Church, which never had good facilities and those largely destroyed by fire. In the 1960's, the newly relocated Queen of Angels Parish refurbished the exterior and in 1971 redecorated the interior, without extensive structural change in most regards. The Queen of Angels ministry of the 1960's under Father Carey was notable for its warm social outreach into the community and for the stimulation of dramatics, musicals and many other cultural activities. Father William Linder, in succession to Father Carey, additionally related the integrated clerical, and lay leadership to other socially reform-minded community leadership, at a critical time in the city's history, the notable venture being the New Community Corporation, an indigenous community group well advanced toward renewing up to 46 acres of projected urban renewal area near the church in an imaginative in-town, new town, including a wide offering of reasonably priced housing. The <u>Newark Daily Advertiser</u> in two articles on the 26th and 28th of October 1861, names Otto Gsantner as the architect. He is presumably of German extraction but as of September, 1971, no other references on him have been located and no German sources have been tried. But architect Otto Gsantner certainly designed and superintended a most ornate and unusual work inside and out. He apparently had a most formidable array of contractors and artisans assisting him as indicated from the same news article. Jonathan Fairchild, mason, Baird, stone cutter, (Continued)			

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Flynn, Joseph M. The Catholic Church in New Jersey, pp. 329-330. Newark Daily Advertiser, October 26, 27 and 28, 1861, articles on church dedication.

Schnall, Kenneth B. A 1965 Thesis, "A Survey of Ecclesiastical Architecture Built in Newark from 1810-1865", Newark State College, a copy on file at Newark Public Library.

Shaw, William H. The History of Essex and Hudson Counties, Vol II, page 509.

Stanton, P.B. The Gothic Revival and American Church Architecture.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	° ' "	° ' "	40 °	43 '	00 "
NE	° ' "	° ' "	74 °	11 '	22 "
SE	° ' "	° ' "			
SW	° ' "	° ' "			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1 acre

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Donald W. Geyer, Licensed professional planner & architectural historian

ORGANIZATION: _____ DATE: _____

STREET AND NUMBER: 351 Broad Street

CITY OR TOWN: Newark STATE: New Jersey CODE: 34

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☒

Name: Richard J. Sullivan
Richard J. Sullivan

Title: Commissioner, Department of Environmental Protection

Date: _____

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert J. Utley
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 10/26/72

ATTEST: William M. Smith
Keeper of The National Register

Date: _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet) (1)

STATE	
New Jersey	
COUNTY	
Essex	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

Queen of Angels Church (RC)
New Jersey Code: 34
Essex Code: 013

Section 8: Continued

Allen & Clayton, carpenters, J.H.G. Hawes, furnace & gas fittings, Koevoets, painting, A. Metz, fresco-painting, Hamilton & Son of New York, stained glass windows and Jardine & Son of New York, organ. The entire cost of the building and furniture was \$22,500 and will seat about 1,000 persons. This church can be compared in elaboration to another German church, St. Alphosus' of Baltimore by noted Robert Cary Long or St. Philomenas' Pittsburgh, demolished. Also probably attributed to Long--both also (RC). See P.B. Stanton book. These establish some German churches in the U.S. as either influential or in some respects comparable. Another subject of some comparability is Newark's St. Patrick's Protestant Cathedral, built in 1850. All contexts bear exploration for the most ornate subject of this submission. St. Peter's reared its ornate spire and long, slender, tall Gothic nave, in a city already replete with great meetinghouse spires, from Georgian to Gothic. However, that some of our German churches should feature formidable center spires, of Gothic versions of the English meetinghouse church (as Gothic replaced the Georgian or other classical meetinghouses), is not attributable more necessarily to British influence than to German. For Germany, from the parish level to Ulm and Freiburg Cathedrals (as great German symbols) had many center-spired and long-naved prototypes in Gothic by the time of the German Trans-Atlantic migrations. It, therefore, takes someone more highly skilled at Gothic detail to sift-out English from German Gothic detailed expression and say which or both, strongly influenced St. Peter's. In any event, the long high nave in its formalism is parallel to Anglican (high church) Gothic Revival, but it is equally consistent with German liturgical formalism, (Catholic, Lutheran or others).

Congressional Representation

Joseph G. Minish, Congressman (11th District)
Clifford P. Case, U.S. Senator
Harrison A. Williams, U.S. Senator





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE

New Jersey

COUNTY

Essex

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

1. NAME

COMMON: ☒ Queen of Angels Church (RC)

AND/OR HISTORIC: ☐ Originally St. Peter's Church (RC) (German)

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

Belmont Avenue opposite Morton Street

CITY OR TOWN:

Newark

STATE:

New Jersey

CODE

34

COUNTY:

Essex

CODE

013

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: Donald W. Geyer

DATE OF PHOTO: 1971

NEGATIVE FILED AT:

351 Broad Street, Newark, New Jersey with Donald W. Geyer

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Frontal, slight left diagonal, from east-southeast, showing facade with spire and other minor detailing long gone from the original, but with other basic lines kept in perma-brick refacing of the 1960's.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

